



# Seufert Law Offices, PA

*We'll Get You Through It*

## From the Captain's Log Sea to Shining Sea



We live in a godforsaken place in winter, the snow, the sleet, the cold. On the other hand, for six months we also live in a wonderful place. You can be on the ocean one day and a short hour drive later enjoying the mountains. Last month we headed out to Wood Island where the Wood Island Life Saving Station was constructed in 1907. Sitting at the head of Portsmouth Harbor the Station was built in times of oarsman and wooden lifeboats, which would ship out into the storms to sailors in peril. Also used in WWII to scan the harbor entrance for Nazi U-boats thought to be lurking just off shore, its missions long since abandoned. The kids and grandkids have enjoyed sailing out to Wood Island for decades, but they have always called it Treasure Island, where they search the rocks and beaches for sea glass, shells, and all other troves washed upon its shores. Accessible only by boat, it has a small harbor on its ocean side where you can drop anchor and dingy ashore. Having sat abandoned for decades a non-profit is slowly reconstructing the Station and grounds with plans to reopen it as a museum in the near future.



This month we then headed up to the White Mountains on our annual foliage trip, going up and around the lake through North Conway and over the Kanc to Lincoln and back home via I-93. Enzo's Pizzeria in Lincoln makes the best white pizza that is the highlight of the trip. The Kancamagus Highway also has a long NH history. Named after a famous Algonquian chief who later was driven by the British into Quebec Canada it was opened in August 1959 and not paved until 1964. Its views of the White Mountains are spectacular in the fall and usually bumper to bumper traffic on the weekends. We find traffic driving westerly on the Kanc is lighter than easterly but a good two hours should be devoted to the 32 mile drive, with occasional photo op stops.

Now I'm not knocking the rest of the Country, but NH is a nice place to live – at least for 6 months of the year. ●

## November 2020 News



# After an Injury, It's Important to Be a Good Patient and be Patient



If you are injured due to someone else's fault, good communication with your doctor and/or therapist, and following through on their recommendations, is critical for your health and well-being—and for receiving fair compensation from the at-fault party.

Being a good patient means keeping all your medical/therapy appointments. It also means giving the doctor or therapist detailed feedback on questions he/she asks you. Think about what you want to say, or ask, or jot down notes prior to your appointment. Doctors and therapists are not mind readers; they need to know what kind of progress you're making. A thorough and accurate medical record will bolster your personal injury claim. Physical therapists are also great note takers, they document everything you tell them and this memorializes your pain and recovery.

Follow your healthcare provider's recommendations. Get prescriptions filled, carry out the exercise or stretching regimen they map out for you, and confirm what activities are OK and which ones are out of bounds. Get an idea of what developments in your recovery should prompt a call to the office.

But, you have to be compliant and patient. Injuries can take time to heal and while going to therapy appointments can be a bit of a hassle, delay in making appointments, skipping appointments, cutting off therapy early, and quitting treatment and then restarting weeks or months later, can create gaps in your treatment record leaving the door wide open for the at-fault party to argue that your injury is not as serious as you claim it is, or that your injury was caused by something else, not the accident in question.

Being a good patient and hiring an experienced personal injury attorney is the best way to receive fair compensation for your injuries. •



## 'The World's Largest Store' (Until 2009) Needs a Parade

The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade debuted in New York City in 1924 to celebrate the expansion of Macy's flagship Manhattan store. Macy's employees teamed up with professional entertainers, live animals from the Central Park Zoo, and floats (pulled by horses until 1939) to delight onlookers with a P. T. Barnum-like spectacle.

The parade was known as the Macy's Christmas Parade from 1924 through 1926, **even though it was held on Thanksgiving** (it's enough to give a holiday an inferiority complex). True, the parade's guest of honor and grand finale was/is Santa Claus, who ushers in the Christmas season, but it was nevertheless audacious!

The famous Macy's balloons joined the fun in 1927. Though a highlight, they've been a source of occasional commotion over the years ... some comical, some serious. Felix the Cat struck electric wires and burst into flames in 1931. In 1957, Popeye accumulated rainwater in his hat; when he tipped forward, water cascaded from said hat, drenching spectators. Even Superman once lost an arm to tree branches.

And ... the wind. In 1997, one wind-tossed balloon snapped a lamppost that injured four people, and an out-of-control Pink Panther nearly smothered a few balloon handlers. New York City promptly instituted new regulations: Each balloon flies at a height dictated by its size and wind conditions; if sustained wind speed exceeds 23 mph or gusts exceed 34 mph, the balloons are grounded.

The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is not the oldest in the country — that distinction goes to the Gimbels Thanksgiving Day Parade in Philadelphia (now the 6abc Dunkin' Donuts Thanksgiving Day Parade) — but it's the most famous.

Have yourselves a merry little Thanksgiving! •



# Should You and Your Future Spouse Sign a Prenuptial Agreement?

While always a touchy and somewhat controversial subject, prenuptial agreements seem to be gaining in popularity, especially with so many marriages ending in divorce nowadays. Prenuptial agreements are more likely to be an issue if it is a second marriage and there are children from prior marriages, perhaps on both sides.

But, is a prenuptial agreement right for you?

While each situation (and couple) is different, there are some key factors that can make a prenuptial agreement a good fit for you, such as if you have:

- Substantial assets.
- Real estate in your own name.
- Income that is significantly higher than that of your future spouse.
- A plan to bequeath all or part of your estate to someone other than your future spouse, for instance children of former marriage.
- Your own business.

To be effective, there has to be full disclosure of your assets, liabilities and income at the time the agreement is drafted. If you fail to make a complete disclosure a court may find the prenuptial agreement to be invalid.



In addition, your future spouse should have his or her own attorney when setting up a prenuptial agreement. A Court is more likely to uphold the agreement if the other party has had their own attorney review its terms.

It is also important for some time to elapse between the signing of a pre-nuptial and the wedding ceremony. Thirty days between the two events is usually considered adequate. Even when a prenuptial agreement seems to be the right decision for you, it can still be very difficult subject to broach with your future spouse, as he or she may be offended by the prospect of even talking about such an agreement.

If you have any questions about prenuptial agreements, please do not hesitate to call our office. ●

November 2020 Notable Dates

**November 3**

Use Your Common Sense Day

**November 4**

Check Your Blood Pressure Day

**November 6**

Saxophone Day

**November 13**

Caregiver Appreciation Day

**November 17**

Take a Hike Day

**November 23**

National Cashew Day

**November 25**

National Parfait Day

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*Protect Your Family, Protect Your Rights*



Sea to  
Shining Sea

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This publication is intended to educate the general public about personal injury, medical malpractice, and other issues. It is for information purposes only and is not intended to be legal advice. Prior to acting on any information contained here, you should seek and retain competent counsel. The information in this newsletter may be freely copied and distributed as long as the newsletter is copied in its entirety.

## Little Sleep and Big Trucks— A Dangerous Combo

Over 30,000 Americans lose their lives on our roadways each year, including nearly 4,000 who are involved in collisions with large commercial trucks. Many factors play roles in triggering accidents, but one that's become more prominent in recent years is fatigued driving.

Studies have shown that fatigue is a critical factor in up to 30 percent of fatal truck crashes and 15 percent of crashes involving serious injury. Fatigue is dangerous no matter what size vehicle is being driven, but the sheer size and weight of a large commercial truck—which, including cargo, may weigh up to 80,000 pounds—magnifies the destructive force of a crash.

When drivers are fatigued, reaction time suffers, judgment is impaired, and drivers are often unaware of their diminished performance. A truck driver not sleeping for 24 hours is equivalent to having a blood-alcohol concentration of .10, which is over twice the legal limit for truck drivers in most states.

Driver fatigue has many sources. Lack of sleep, long hours, stressful work with tight schedules, nighttime driving (when the body wants to be sleeping), monotony, physical labor in addition to driving, poor health and fitness, medication, and sleep disorders (e.g., sleep apnea), among other circumstances, all contribute to fatigued driving.

Most all truck drivers are highly experienced and professional, and there are federal laws that regulate hours on the road, required break times, and required pre-trip inspections, but that doesn't mean drivers will automatically get quality sleep, or that some companies won't push the driver's legal limits.

If you have been the victim of an accident involving a commercial truck, contact us to protect your rights. ●

